From: lrh@isi.no
Subject: RE: Apres Nevers
Date: Thu, 6 Jun 1996 06:34:37 GMT

Hello everyone,
we thought we should give our view of the festival at Nevers since they differ somewhat from Darkblue's. Our rating system is similar (1=bad, 5=excellent). First a few words about the festival in general. It was held in a baroque theatre (as advertised). This was wonderful and the acoustics were great. As a matter of fact the soundquality was excellent for all the performances, and this coupled with the intimacy of the theatre (which had three stories of balconies) and a great audience (quiet while the bands played and enthusiastic inbetween) made the settings for the performances as near perfect as we can think of. In the breaks between the bands it was possible to buy refreshments in the bar as well as records, and the artists were mingling with the audience. We've never seen so many interesting records assembled in one place, and if we hadn't already borrowed money for the plane-tickets from Norway to France, we probably wouldn't have been able to carry our bags back home... In short the setting was all anyone could wish for. Now for the bands:

The Revolutionary Army Of The Infant Jesus:
Extremely good performance, especially the visual side of things. They reminded us somewhat of bands like Test Dept. and The Moon Lay Hidden..., but not really like anything we had heard before. Overall a very positive surprise. We bought their CD and it turned out that they actually are much better live than on record. This is not to say that the CD is bad, but it's not very well produced and of course it lacks the excellent visuals. Definitely a band to keep an eye (or ear) on.

Sound: 4, Vision: 5

Söldnergeist:
Average music and a pointless stage-performance which mainly consisted of the two members of the band taking turns to paste pages from various magazines on to three cardboard crosses. Disappointing.

Sound: 3, Vision: 2

Daniel Menche:
Extremely intense and physical performance and some excellent deep droning sounds, but perhaps a bit repetetive.

Sound: 3, Vision: 4

Raison D'Etre:
A very disappointing concert which didn't offer anything more than listening to the CD at home. We quite agree with Darkblue here.

Sound: 2, Vision: 1

Schloss Tegal:
A really good concert from these veterans. Very relaxing soundscapes and nice background film. We actually fell asleep occationally during the

concert, being very tired after a long day, but we really enjoyed this concert.

Sound: 4, Vision: 4

O Yuki Conjugate + Sons Of Silence = Spoke:
This concert started well with three men playing on bicycles, but trailed off into some pointless techno in the middle part of the concert before ending quite ok. Unfortunately the techno part detracted a lot from the overall impression.

Sound: 2, Vision: 3

Batchas:
Very good ambient industrial concert which turned out to be as great as his records.

Sound: 4, Vision: 3

Co-Caspar:
This concert is without a shadow of doubt the strangest we've ever seen. 59 year old Caspar (acording to the Tesco catalogue) is undoubtedly a fascinating man.

Sound: 2, Vision: 4

Current 93:
This has to be the best concert we've ever been to. The selection of songs were immaculate and the sound great with Karl Blake's bass lending the songs greater weight than on the records. The performance was in our opinion better than any other live performance we've heard by C93 either on bootleg or on the official releases. As far as we can remember they played the following songs (not in this order though):

Horsey
The Descent of Long Satan and Babylon
In the Heart of the Wood and What I Found There
A Silence Song
When the May Rain Comes
A Sad Sadness Song
Steven and I in the Fields of Stars
The Teeth of the Winds of the Sea
All The World Makes Great Blood
The Great Bloody and Bruised Veil of the World
Dormition and Dominion
This Shining Shining World
Lucifer over London
All The Pretty Little Horsies
Calling for Vanished Faces
This Carnival is Dead and Gone
The Bloodbells Chime

There could of course be some slight mistakes here, but at least we think we heard these songs.

Sound: 5, Vision: 5

Overall we thought it was an excellent festival, and if it's in any way possible we'll be there next year as well.

Hugo & Linn